(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to meet the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) As per studies conducted by the Advisory Board on Energy, an average household consumes about 3.5 tonnes of biomass per year in the form of fuel for cooking and heating in domestic sector. Government has adopted certain strategies, like increased production by raising fuelwood plantations; conservation of energy through better and efficient devices etc.

(b) It has been estimated that in rural areas firewood contributes as high as 68.5% of the total energy consumption followed by animal dung (8.3%), Coal products (2.3%) and other (3.4%).

(c) and (d). There is a gap between demand and supply of non-commercial fuels used in the domestic sector. To bridge the gap between demand and supply of non-commercial fuels, the Government has taken the following steps:-

(i) Increase in production by raising fueiwood plantations;

(ii) Conserving fuel by improving the efficiency of Chulhas.

(iii) Replacement of wood fuel with solar cookers, biogas, LPG, etc.

[*Translation*]

Karnapura Thermal Power Projects in Bihar

1779. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Karnapura Thermal Power Station in Tandva region in Chatra district of Bihar in collaboration with the Australian Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). A proposal has been received from National Thermal Power Corporation for setting up a (2x500 MW) Coal-based Super Thermal Power Project at North Karanpura (Tandwa site) in Hazaribagh District of Bihar. The proposal has been techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority subject to certain conditions including clearance from environmental angle, confirmation of water availability etc. The project will require investment approval after these issues are settled. No Australian collaboration for this project has been envisaged at present.

Proposal to Increase Duration of Parliament New on Doordarshan

1771. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK:
SHRI BARE LAL JATAV:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the duration of Parliament News on Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTRY IN THE MINISTSRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) There is no proposal at present.